

NATIONAL REPUBLICAN.

THE MAIL ROBBER.

A FRAGMENT OF ENGLISH HISTORY.

When the tyranny and bigotry of the last James drove his subjects to take up arms against him, one of the most formidable enemies to his usurpation was Sir George Cochrane, a prominent actor in Argyle's rebellion.

For ages a destructive doom seemed to hang over the house of Campbell, enveloping in a common ruin all who united their fortunes to the cause of the chieftains. The same doom encompassed Sir John Cochrane. He was surrounded by the King's troops—long, bold, and desperate, was his resistance; but at length, overpowered by numbers, he was taken prisoner, tried, and condemned to die upon the scaffold. He had but a few days to live, and the jailer only awaited the arrival of his death warrant, to lead him forth to execution. His family and relatives had visited him in prison, and exchanged with him the last, the long, the heart-yearning farewell. But there was one who came not with the rest to receive his blessing—one who was the pride of his eyes and of his house, even Grizelle, the daughter of his love.

Twilight was casting a deep gloom over the grating of his prison house, and he was mourning for a last look of his favorite child, and his head was pressed against the cold damp cell, to cool the feverish pulsations that shot through it like streams of fire, when the door of his apartment turned slowly on its unwilling hinges, and his keeper entered, followed by a young and beautiful lady. Her person was tall and commanding, her eyes bright and fearless, but their brightness told of sorrow—sorrow too deep to be wiped away; and her raven tresses parted over an open brow, clear and pure as the polished marble. The unhappy captive raised his head as the two entered.

"My child, my own Grizelle!" he exclaimed, and she fell upon his bosom.

"My father, my dear father!" sobbed the miserable maiden, and dashed away the tears that accompanied the words.

"Your interview must be short, very short," said the jailer, as he turned away and left them for a few minutes together.

"Heaven help and comfort thee, my daughter!" added Sir John, while he held her to his breast and imprinted a kiss upon her brow. "I feared that I should die without bestowing my blessing on the head of my own child, and that stung me more than death itself; but thou art come, and the last blessing of thy wretched father."

"Nay, father, forbear!" she exclaimed; "not thy last blessing! not thy last—my father shall not die."

"Be calm, be calm, my child," he returned. "Would to Heaven I could comfort thee, my own! But there is no hope; within three days thou and all my little ones will be—"

Fatherless, he would have said, but the word died on his lips. "Three days," repeated she, raising her head from his breast, and pressing his hand, "three days; then there is hope—my father shall live! Is not my grandfather with the confessor and the master of the King? From him he shall beg the life of his son, and my father shall not die."

"Nay, nay, my Grizelle," returned he, "be not deceived; there is no hope. Already the King has sealed the order of my execution, and the messenger of death is on his way."

"Yet my father shall not—shall not die," she repeated, clasping her hands together. "Heaven speed a daughter's purpose," she exclaimed; and, turning to him, said, calmly, "we part now, but we meet again."

"What wouldst thou, my child?" inquired he, eagerly, and gazed anxiously upon her face.

"Ask not now," she replied; "my father, not now, but pray for me and bless me—but not with thy last blessing."

He again pressed her to his heart, and wept upon her neck. In a few minutes the jailer entered, and they were torn from the arms of each other.

On the evening of the second day after the interview we have mentioned, a wayfarer man crossed the bridge at Berwick, from the north, and, proceeding along Marygate, sat down to rest upon a bench by the door of an hostelry on the south side of the street, nearly fronting where what was called "the main guard" then stood. He did not enter the inn, for it was above his apparent condition; being that which Oliver Cromwell had made his headquarters a few years before, and where, at the somewhat earlier period, James the Sixth of Scotland had taken up his residence, when on his way to enter upon the sovereignty of England. The traveller wore a close jerkin, fastened around his body by a leather girdle, and over it a short cloak of equally plain materials. He was evidently a young man, for his beard was drawn down so as almost to conceal his features. In one hand he carried a small bundle, and in the other a pilgrim's staff. Having called for a glass of wine he took a crust of bread from his bundle, and, after resting a few minutes, rose to depart. The shades of night were setting in, and it threatened to be a night of storms. The heavens were gathering black, the clouds rushing from the sea, and sudden gusts of wind were moaning along the streets, accompanied by heavy drops of rain, and the face of the Tweed was troubled.

"Heaven help thee, if thou intendest to travel far such a night as this," said the sentinel at the English gate, as the traveller passed him and proceeded to cross over the bridge. In a few minutes he was over upon the wide, desolate, and dreary moor of Tweedmouth, where for miles presented a desert of furze, fern, and stunted heath, with here and there a single covered with thick brushwood. Slowly he toiled over the steep hill, braving the storm, which now raved with the wildest fury. The rain fell in torrents, and the wind howled as a legion of famished wolves, hurling its doleful and angry echoes over the heath. Still the stranger hurried onward, until he had proceeded two or three miles from Berwick, when, as if unable longer to brave the storm, he sought shelter amid some crab and bramble bushes by the way side.

Nearly an hour passed since he sought this imperfect refuge, and the darkness of the night and the storm had increased together, when the sound of a horse's feet was heard maddly splashing through the water along the road. The rider bent his head to the blast. Suddenly the horse was grasped by the bridle; the rider raised his head, and the stranger stood before him, holding a pistol to his breast.

"Dismount, or die!" said the stranger, sternly. The horseman, benumbed and stricken with fear, made an effort to reach his arms, but in a moment the hand of the robber, quitting the bridle, grasped the breast of the rider, and dragged him to the ground. He fell heavily upon his face, and for several minutes remained senseless.

The stranger seized the leather bag which contained the mail to the North, and, flinging it on his shoulder, rushed across the heath.

Early on the following morning, the inhabitants of Berwick were seen hurrying in groups to the spot where the robbery had been committed, and were scattered in every direction over the moor, but no trace of the robber could be obtained.

Three days had yet passed, and Sir John

Cochrane had lived. The mail which contained his death-warrant had been robbed, and before another order for an execution could be given, the intercession of his father, the Earl of Donald, with the King's confessor, might be successful.

Grizelle now became his constant companion in prison, and spoke to him words of comfort. Nearly fourteen days had passed since the robbery of the mail had been committed, and protracted hope in the prisoner became more bitter than the first despair. But even that hope, bitter as it was, had been unsuccessful, and the second time the bigoted, haughty monarch had signed the warrant of his death, and within little more than a day that warrant would reach his prison.

"The will of Heaven be done!" groaned the captive.

"Amén!" responded Grizelle, with wild vehemence; "but yet my father shall not die." Again the rider had reached the moor of Tweedmouth, and the second time he bore with him the doom of Sir John Cochrane. He spurred his horse to the utmost speed; he looked before, behind, and round him, and in the right hand he held a pistol, ready to defend him. The moon shed a ghastly light across the heath, which was only sufficient to render desolation dimly visible, and it gave a spiritual embodiment to every shrub. He was turning an angle of a straggling copse, when his horse reared at the report of a pistol, the fire of which seemed to flash in its very eyes. At the same moment his own pistol flashed, and his horse rearing violently, he was driven from his saddle. In a moment the foot of the robber was on his breast, who, bending over him, and brandishing a short dagger in his hand, said: "Give me thy arms, or die!"

The heart of the King's servant failed within him, and without venturing a reply, he hid as he was commanded.

"Now go by way," said the robber, sternly, "but leave the horse with me, and leave thy mail, lest a worse thing come upon thee."

The man arose and proceeded towards Berwick, trembling, and the robber, mounting the horse which he had left, rode rapidly over the heath.

Preparations were making for the execution of Sir John Cochrane, and the officers of the law waiting only for the arrival of the mail and the second death warrant, to lead him forth to the scaffold, when the tidings arrived that the mail had again been robbed. For fourteen days the life of the prisoner would yet be prolonged. He again fell on the neck of his daughter, and said:

"It is said the hand of Heaven is in this!"

"Said I not," replied the maiden, and for the first time she wept aloud, "that my father should not die?"

The fourteen days had not passed when the prison door flew open, and the Earl of Donald rushed to the arms of his son. His intercession with the confessor had been successful, and after twice signing the death warrant for the execution of Sir John, which had so often failed in its place of destination, the King had sealed his pardon.

He had hurried with his father from the prison to his own house, his family were clinging around him, shedding tears of joy; but Grizelle, who, during the imprisonment, had suffered more than them all, was absent. They were marvelling with gratitude at the mysterious Providence that had twice intercepted the mail and saved his life, when a stranger craved an audience. Sir John desired him to be admitted, and the robber entered; he was habited, as we have before described, with the coarse cloak and jerkin, but his bearing was above his condition. On entering, he slightly touched his beaver, but remained uncovered. "When you have perused these," said he, taking two papers from his bosom, "cast them into the fire."

Sir John glanced at them, started, and became pale; they were his own death warrants! "My deliverer!" he exclaimed, "how shall I thank thee; how repay the saviour of my life? My father, my children, thank him for me."

The Earl grasped the hand of the stranger, the children embraced his knees. He pressed his hand to his face, and burst into tears. "By what name," eagerly inquired Sir John, "shall I thank my deliverer?"

The stranger went aloud, and, raising his beaver, the raven tresses of Grizelle Cochrane fell on the coarse cloak.

"Gracious Heavens!" exclaimed the astonished and enraptured father, "my own child—my saviour—my own Grizelle!"

It is unnecessary to add more. The imagination of the reader can supply the rest, and we may add, that Grizelle Cochrane, whose heroism and noble affection we have briefly and imperfectly sketched, was the grandmother of the late John Stewart, of Allen Bank, Berwickshire, and grandmother of Coult, the celebrated banker.

LADD, WEBSTER, & CO'S IMPROVED TIGHT-STITCH SEWING MACHINES.

A few of the many reasons why these Sewing Machines are preferred above all others.

1. They are remarkably simple in their construction. A child can operate them, and understand the mechanism.
2. They are the strongest Sewing Machine made. It is almost impossible to break or get them out of order.
3. They are sure in their operation; finishing the work in a uniformly perfect manner.
4. They make a tight lock-stitch, alike on both sides of the work, which cannot be unravelled.
5. They stitch, hem, bind, fell, run, and gather, without basting.
6. They sew equally well the lightest and the heaviest fabrics.
7. They sew over the heaviest seams without changing the tension or breaking the finest thread.
8. They use any No. of Cotton, Thread, or Silk, directly from the spool.
9. They use a straight needle; curved ones are liable to break.
10. The needle has a perpendicular motion. This is absolutely necessary for heavy work.
11. They have a wheel feed, none others are in constant contact with the work.
12. They run easily and almost noiseless.
13. They are not liable to oil the dress of the operator.
14. They do not require a screw-driver to set the needle.
15. They do not have to be taken apart to oil or clean.
16. They do not form ridges on the under side of the work, nor ravel out, nor are they wasteful of thread, as is the case with all chain-stitch machines.
17. They are capable of doing a greater range of work, and in a more perfect manner, than any other Sewing Machine, as is proved by the result of our challenge for a trial, which has never been accepted.

LADD, WEBSTER, & CO.,
348 Pennsylvania avenue,
Nov 26 Janney's Store.

STRAY SHEEP.
CAME to the premises of the subscriber, on Thursday last, a stray SHEEP, which the owner can have by proving property and paying all expenses incurred.

JAMES GORMAN,
dec 11 606 G street.

Organization of the Departments.

STATE DEPARTMENT.

The whole machinery employed to conduct the business arising out of our foreign relations with all the Powers of the world is far more simple than is generally conceived. The number employed in the Department of State of the United States is only twenty-eight, as follows: One Secretary of State, (Hon. Lewis Cass,) one Assistant Secretary of State, (Hon. John Appleton,) one Chief Clerk, one Superintendent of Statistics, twenty-two Clerks, one Translator, and one Librarian.

Diplomatic Branch.—This branch of the State Department has charge of all correspondence between the Department and other diplomatic agents of the United States abroad, and those of foreign Powers accredited to this Government. In it all diplomatic instructions sent from the Department, and communications to commissioners under treaties of boundaries, &c., are prepared, copied, and recorded; and all of like character received are registered and filed, the contents being first entered in an analytic table or index.

Consular Branch.—This branch has charge of the correspondence, &c., between the Department and the consuls and commercial agents of the United States. In it instructions to those officers, and answers to their dispatches and to letters from other persons asking for consular agency, or relating to consular affairs, are prepared and recorded.

The Disbursing Agent.—He has charge of all correspondence and other matters connected with accounts payable to and payable by the Department, of which the Department is charged.

The Translator.—His duties are to furnish such translations as the Department may require. He also records the commissions of consuls and vice consuls, when not in English, upon which exequaturs are issued.

Clerk of Appointments and Commissions.—He makes out and records commissions, letters of appointment, and nominations to the Senate; makes out and records exequaturs, and records, when in English, the commissions on which they are issued. Has charge of the library.

Clerk of the Rolls and Archives.—He takes charge of the rolls, or enrolled acts and resolutions of Congress, as they are received at the Department from the President; prepares the authenticated copies thereof which are called for; prepares for, and superintends their publication, and that of treaties, in the newspapers and in book form; attends to their distribution throughout the United States, and that of all documents and publications in regard to which this duty is assigned to the Department; writing and answering all letters received from foreign Powers, and all Indian treaties, and business relating thereto.

Clerk of Territorial Business.—The Seal of the Department is in his charge. He has charge of the United States and of the Department, and prepares and attests certificates to papers presented for authentication; has charge of the Territorial business; immigration and registered seamen; records all letters from the Department, other than the diplomatic and consular.

Clerk of Pardons and Passports.—He prepares and records pardons and remissions; and registers and files the petitions and papers on which they are founded. Makes out and records all pardons, and registers all letters of all letters, other than diplomatic and consular, received, and of the disposition made of them; prepares letters relating to this business.

Superintendent of Statistics.—He superintends the preparation of the "Annual Report of the Secretary of State and Foreign Commerce," as required by the acts of 1842 and 1856.

ATTORNEY GENERAL'S OFFICE.
Hon. Jeremiah S. Black, Attorney General of the United States; A. B. McCalmont, Esq., Assistant.

The ordinary business of this office may be classified under the following heads:

1. Opinions on the current business of the Government, as called for by the President, by any head of Department, or by the Solicitor of the Treasury.

2. Examination of the titles of all land purchased, as the sites of arsenals, custom-houses, light-houses, and all other public works of the United States.

3. Applications for pardons in all cases of conviction in the courts of the United States.

4. Application for appointment to all the judicial and legal business of the Government.

5. The conduct and argument of all suits in the Supreme Court of the United States in which the Government is concerned.

6. The supervision of all other suits arising in any of the Departments, when referred by the head thereof to the Attorney General.

To these ordinary heads of the business of the office is added, at the present time, the direction of all appeals on land claims in California.

INTERIOR DEPARTMENT.

Secretary of the Department of the Interior, Hon. Jacob Thompson, of the State of Mississippi. His clerical force consists of one Chief Clerk, (Moses Kelly, Esq.) two Disbursing Clerks, and ten other regular Clerks; and to its supervision and management are committed the following branches of the public service:

1. **The Public Lands.**—The chief of this bureau is called the Commissioner of the General Land Office. The Land Bureau is charged with the survey, management, and sale of the public domain, and the issuing of titles thereto, whether derived from confirmations of grants made by former Governments, by sales, donations, or grants for schools, military bounties, or public improvements, and likewise the revision of Virginia military bounty-land claims, and the issuing of scrip in lieu thereof. The Land Office, also, audits its own accounts. The present Commissioner is Joseph S. Wilson. His principal officers are a Recorder, Chief Clerk, who also acts as Commissioner *ad interim*, Principal Clerk of Surveys, besides a Draughtsman, Assistant Draughtsman, and some 150 Clerks of various grades.

2. **Pensions.**—The present head of this bureau is George C. Whiting, of Virginia. The Commissioner is charged with the examination and adjudication of all claims arising under the various and numerous laws passed by Congress granting bounty land or pensions for the military or naval services of the revolutionary and subsequent wars in which the United States have been engaged. He has one Chief Clerk, (John Robb, Esq.), and a permanent corps, consisting of some seventy other Clerks.

3. **Indians.**—Commissioner of Indian Affairs, A. B. Greenwood, of Arkansas. He is provided with a Chief Clerk, and about fifteen other subordinate Clerks.

4. **Patent Office.**—Hon. Philip F. Thomas, of Maryland, Commissioner of Patents. To this bureau is committed the execution and performance of all "acts and things touching and respecting the granting and issuing of patents for new and useful discoveries, inventions, and improvements;" the collection of statistics relating to agriculture; the collection and distribution of seeds, plants, and cuttings. It has a Chief Clerk, who is by law the chief Commissioner of Patents in the absence of the Commissioner—twelve principal and twelve assistant Examiners of Patents, some dozen subordinate permanent Clerks, besides a considerable number of temporary employees. Samuel T. Shugart, Esq., Chief Clerk.

As act passed at the last session of Congress provided that all books, maps, charts, and other publications, heretofore deposited in the Department of State, according to the laws regulating copyrights, should be removed to the Department of the Interior, which is charged with all the duties connected with matters pertaining to copyright; which duties have been assigned by the Secretary of the Interior to the Patent Of-

fice, as belonging most appropriately to this branch of the service.

Beside these four principal branches of this new Executive Department, the organic act of 1849 transferred to it from the Treasury Department the supervision of the accounts of the United States Marshals and Attorneys, and the Clerks of the United States Courts, the management of the lead and other mines of the United States, and the affairs of the penitentiary of the United States in the District of Columbia; and from the State Department the duty of taking and returning the censuses of the United States, and of supervising and directing the acts of the Commissioner of Public Buildings. The Hospital for the insane of the army and navy and of the District of Columbia is also under the management of this Department; in addition to which, by laws recently passed, the Secretary of the Interior is charged with the construction of the three wagon roads leading to the Pacific coast.

Under act of February 5, 1859, "providing for keeping and distributing all public documents, all the books, documents, &c., printed or purchased by the Government," the Annals of Congress, American State Papers, American Archives, Jefferson's and Adams's Works, are transferred to this Department from the State Department, Library of Congress, and elsewhere; also, the Journals and Documents of the Thirty-fifth Congress. These valuable works are distributed to those who are by law entitled to receive them, and to such colleges, public libraries, museums, literary and scientific institutions, boards of trade, or public associations, as shall be designated by the members of Congress.

The Department requires an additional building for its accommodation, and the erection of one has been repeatedly recommended during the last few years for that purpose. At present, the Pension Office is provided with rooms in what is known as "Winder's Building," while the other branches of the Department, including the Secretary's office, are all crowded into the Patent Office building, the whole of which will be required at an early day for the use of the Patent Office, for which it was originally intended.

TREASURY DEPARTMENT.

The Treasury Department consists of the offices of the Secretary of the Treasury, two Comptrollers, Commissioner of the Customs, six Auditors, Treasurer, Register, Solicitor, Light-house Board, and Coast Survey.

The following is a brief indication of the duties of these several offices, and of the force employed therein, respectively:

Secretary's Office.—Hon. Howell Cobb, Secretary of the Treasury; Hon. Philip Clayton, Assistant Secretary; one Engineer in Charge; one Architect, and three Draughtsmen temporarily employed, and twenty-three Clerks. The Secretary of the Treasury is charged with the general supervision of the fiscal transactions of the Government, and of the execution of the laws concerning the currency and navigation of the United States. He superintends the survey of the coast, the light-house establishment, the marine hospitals of the United States, and the construction of certain public buildings for customs-houses and other purposes.

First Comptroller's Office.—Hon. William Medill, Comptroller, and fifteen Clerks. He prescribes the mode of keeping and rendering accounts for the civil and diplomatic service, as well as the public lands, and revises and certifies the balances arising thereon.

Second Comptroller's Office.—J. M. Cutts, Esq., Comptroller, and sixteen Clerks. He prescribes the mode of keeping and rendering the accounts of the Army, Navy, and Indian departments of the public service, and revises and certifies the balances arising thereon.

Office of Commissioner of Customs.—Samuel Ingam, Esq., Commissioner, and eleven Clerks. He prescribes the mode of keeping and rendering the accounts of the customs, revenue, and disbursements, and for the building and repairing custom-houses, &c., and revises and certifies the balances arising thereon.

First Auditor's Office.—Thomas L. Smith, Esq., Auditor, and sixteen Clerks. He receives and adjusts the accounts of the customs revenue and disbursements, appropriations and expenditures on account of the civil list, and under private acts of Congress, and reports the balances to the Commissioner of the Customs and the First Comptroller, respectively, for their decision thereon.

Second Auditor's Office.—Thomas J. D. Fuller, Second Auditor, and twenty-one Clerks. He receives and adjusts all accounts relating to the pay, clothing, and recruiting of the army, as well as arsenals, arsenals, and ordnance, and all accounts relating to the Indian department, and reports the balances to the Second Comptroller, for his decision thereon.

Third Auditor's Office.—Robert J. Atkinson, Esq., Third Auditor, and seventy-eight Clerks. He receives and adjusts all accounts for subsistence of the army, fortifications, Military Academy, military roads, and the Quartermaster's department, as well as for pensions, claims arising from military service, property lost in the military service, and other property lost in the military service, under various acts of Congress, and reports the balances to the Second Comptroller, for his decision thereon.

Fourth Auditor's Office.—A. J. O'Bannon, Esq., Fourth Auditor, and sixteen Clerks. He receives and adjusts all accounts for the service of the Navy Department, and reports the balances to the Second Comptroller, for his decision thereon.

Fifth Auditor's Office.—Bartholomew Fuller, Esq., Fifth Auditor, and six Clerks. He receives and adjusts all accounts for diplomatic and similar services, performed under the direction of the State Department, and reports the balances to the First Comptroller, for his decision thereon.

Sixth Auditor's Office.—Dr. Thomas M. Tate, Auditor of the Treasury for the Post Office Department, and one hundred and fourteen Clerks. He receives and adjusts all accounts arising from the service of the Post Office Department. His decisions are final, unless an appeal be taken in twelve months to the First Comptroller. He superintends the collection of all debts due the Post Office Department, and all penalties and forfeitures imposed on postmasters and mail contractors for failing to do their duty; he directs suits and legal proceedings, civil and criminal, and takes all such measures as may be authorized by law to enforce the prompt payment of moneys due to the Department; instructing United States attorneys, marshals, and clerks, on all matters relating thereto; and receives returns from each term of the United States courts, of the condition and progress of such suits and legal proceedings; has charge of all lands and other property assigned to the United States in payment of debts due the Post Office Department, and has power to sell and dispose of the same for the benefit of the United States.

Treasurer's Office.—Samuel Casey, Esq., Treasurer, and thirteen Clerks. He receives and keeps the moneys of the United States in his own office, and that of the depositories created by the act of the 6th of August, 1846, and pays out the same upon warrants drawn by the Secretary of the Treasury, countersigned by the First Comptroller, and upon warrants drawn by the Postmaster General, and countersigned by the Sixth Auditor, and recorded by the Register. He also holds public moneys advanced by warrant to disbursing officers, and pays out the same upon their checks.

Register's Office.—Finley Bigger, Esq., Register, and twenty-nine Clerks. He keeps the accounts of public receipts and expenditures; receives the returns and makes out the official statement of commerce and navigation of the United States; and receives from the First Comptroller and Commissioner of Customs all accounts and

vouchers decided by them, and is charged by law with their safe keeping.

Solicitor's Office.—Hon. Junius Hillier, Solicitor, and six Clerks. He superintends all civil suits commenced by the United States, (except those arising in the Post Office Department,) and instructs the United States attorneys, marshals, and clerks, in all matters relating to them and their results. He receives returns from each term of the United States courts, showing the progress and condition of such suits; has charge of all lands and other property assigned to the United States in payment of debts due the Post Office Department, and has power to sell and dispose of the same for the benefit of the United States.

Light-House Board.—Hon. Howell Cobb, Secretary of the Treasury, *ex-officio* President; Com. W. B. Shubrick, United States Navy, Chairman; Commander E. G. Tilton, United States Navy; Major A. H. Bowman, Corps of Engineers, United States Army; Capt. A. A. Humphreys, Corps Topographical Engineers, United States Army; Prof. Joseph Henry, Secretary of the Smithsonian Institution; Prof. A. D. Bache, Superintendent of the Coast Survey; Commander Raphael Semple, United States Navy, and Captain F. Smith, Corps Topographical Engineers, United States Army, members, the last two being also Secretaries; and five Clerks. This board directs the building and repairing of light-houses, light-vessels, beacons, and buoys, contracts for supplies, and governs the personnel of the establishment.

United States Coast Survey.—Professor A. D. Bache, LL. D., Superintendent, and Superintendent of Weights and Measures.

Capt. William R. Palmer, Corps Topographical Engineers, United States Army, in charge of the Coast Survey Office; Lieut. A. P. Hill, United States Army, Assistant.

Assistant W. P. Trowbridge, computer of longitudes.

Assistant Chas. A. Schott, in charge of computing division.

Assistant L. F. Pourtales, in charge of tidal division.

Lieut. Thomas Wilson, United States Army, in charge of drawing division.

Mr. Edward Wharton, acting in charge of engraving division.

Lieut. John R. Smead, United States Army, in charge of miscellaneous divisions.

Samuel Hein, Disbursing Agent.

George Mathiot, Electrotypist.

Joseph Saxton, Assistant to Superintendent of Weights and Measures.

POST OFFICE DEPARTMENT.

Hon. Joseph Holt, Postmaster General. The direction and management of the Post Office Department are assigned by the Constitution and laws to the Postmaster General, and his assistants. His office is the most conveniently arranged and prepared for his final action, it is distributed among several bureaus, as follows: The Appointment Office, in charge of the First Assistant Postmaster General; the Contract Office, in charge of the Second Assistant Postmaster General; the Finance Office, in charge of the Third Assistant Postmaster General; and the Inspection Office, in charge of the Chief Clerk.

Appointment Office.—Horatio King, Esq., First Assistant Postmaster General, and nineteen Clerks. To this office are assigned all questions which relate to the establishment and discontinuance of post offices, changes of sites and names, appointment and removal of postmasters and route and local agents, as also the giving of instructions to postmasters. Postmasters are furnished with marking and rating stamps and letter balances by this bureau, which is charged also with providing blank stationery for the use of the Department, and with the superintendence of the several agencies established for supplying postmasters with blanks. To this bureau is likewise assigned the supervision of the ocean mail steamship lines, and of the foreign and international postal arrangements.

Contract Office.—William H. Dundas, Esq., Second Assistant Postmaster General, and twenty-six Clerks. To this office is assigned the business of arranging the mail service of the United States, and placing the same under contract, embracing all correspondence and proceedings respecting the frequency of trips, mode of conveyance, and times of departures and arrivals on all the routes; the course of the mail between the different sections of the country, the points of mail distribution, and the regulations for the government of the domestic mail service of the United States. It prepares the advertisements for mail proposals, receives the bids, and takes charge of the award and execution of the contracts. All applications for the establishment or alteration of mail arrangements, and the appointment of Mail Messengers, should be sent to this office. All claims should be submitted to it for transportation service not under contract, as the recognition of said service is first to be obtained through the Contract Office, as a necessary authority for the proper credits at the Auditor's Office. From this office all postmasters at the ends of routes receive the statement of mail arrangements prescribed for the respective routes. It reports weekly to the Auditor all contracts executed, and all orders affecting accounts for mail transportation; prepares the statistical exhibits of the mail service, and the reports of the reports of the mail lettings, giving a statement of each bid; also, of the contracts made, the new service originated, the curtailments ordered, and the additional allowances granted within the year.

Finance Office.—A. N. Zevely, Esq., Third Assistant Postmaster General, and twenty-one Clerks. To this office are assigned the supervision and management of the financial business of the Department, not devolved by law upon the Auditor, embracing accounts with the draft office and other depositories of the Department, the issuing of warrants and drafts in payment of balances reported by the Auditor to be due to mail contractors and other persons, the supervision of the accounts of offices under orders to deposit their quarterly balances at designated points, and the superintendence of the rendition by postmasters of their quarterly returns of postage. It has charge of the Dead-Letter Office, the issuing of postage stamps and stamped envelopes for the prepayment of postage, and of the accounts connected therewith.

To the Third Assistant Postmaster General all postmasters should direct their quarterly returns of postage; those at draft offices, their letters reporting quarterly the net proceeds of their offices; and those at depositing offices, their certificates of deposit; to him should also be directed the weekly and monthly returns of the depositories of the Department, as well as all applications and receipts for postage stamps and stamped envelopes, and for dead letters.

Inspection Office.—Benj. N. Clements, Esq., Chief Clerk, and seventeen Clerks. To this office is assigned the duty of receiving and examining the registers of the arrivals and departures of the mails, certificates of the service of route agents, and reports of mail failures; of noting the delinquencies of contractors, and preparing cases thereon for the action of the Postmaster General; furnishing blanks for mail registers, and reports of mail failures; providing and sending out mail bags and mail locks, and doing all other things which may be necessary to secure a faithful and exact performance of all mail contracts.

All cases of mail depredation, of violation of law by private expressmen, or by the forging or illegal use of postage stamps, are under the supervision of this office, and should be reported to it.

All communications respecting lost money, letters, mail depredations, or other violations of law, or mail locks and keys, should be directed, "Chief Clerk, Post Office Department."

All registers of the arrivals and depart